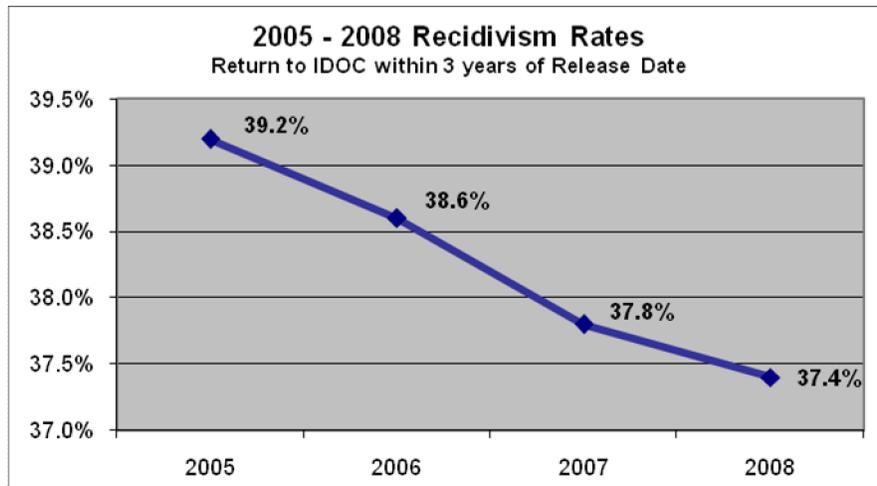


Indiana Department of Correction Recidivism Rates Decrease for 3rd Consecutive Year

The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) defines recidivism as a return to incarceration within three years of the offender's date of release from a state correctional institution. A recent study by the IDOC calculated the 2008 recidivism rate for offenders released from IDOC during 2005. This study found that:

- 2008 recidivism rates indicate a decrease for the third consecutive year. Of those offenders released in 2005, 37.4% were recommitted to the IDOC within three years of their release date.



- Male offenders had a higher recidivism rate when compared to female offenders. Of male offenders released in 2005, 38.4% returned to the IDOC, versus 31.1% of female releases.
- The recidivism rate for African American offenders increased from the prior year to 46.6%, while recidivism rates for Caucasian offenders decreased to 33.9%.
- The younger the offender is at the time he/she is released, the more likely they are to return to the IDOC. Also, offenders serving less than 2 years with IDOC represent over 80% of all recidivists.
- Of all offenders who recidivated, nearly 58% returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime, compared to approximately 42% of returns for a technical rule violation of post-release supervision.
- Nearly 50% of all offenders released for a weapons related crime as their most serious offense returned to incarceration within three years of release.
- Offenders identified as sex offenders who were released in 2005 returned to IDOC at a higher rate than all other offenders. This is attributed to the fact that nearly 70% returned for a technical rule violation. However, only 1.05% of identified sex offender's recidivated for a new sex crime within 3 years.